



Empowering Voices

The NEW Official Newsletter of the **Winston-Salem Girls Chorus**
Anne M. Saxon, Editor — Fall 2015

Winston-Salem Girls Chorus

(WSGC): A multi-leveled, community-based choir organization for girl singers from 8-18 in Winston-Salem and surrounding areas. WSGC is a partner with the Music and Arts Ministries of Centenary United Methodist Church.

Founder, Managing Artistic Director & Conductor

Anne M. Saxon

Accompanist

Cynthia Saylor

Director Assistant

Suzanne Saxon

Administrator

Lelia McClain

Parent Board President

Darby Graves

UPBEAT! Representative

Mason Wood

Lyrica Representative

Lindsey Avant

Encore Representative

Robin Bachmeyer

Uniform Chairperson

Judith Arnolda

Webmaster

Shawn Martin

Centenary UMC Director of Music

Dr. Robert Frazier

Centenary UMC Music & Arts Ministries

Jean Burroughs

Barbara Fulp

Pollyann Holthusen

Salem Academy Chorus Director

Joy Rushton



Winston-Salem Girls Chorus

Formerly known as the Central Carolina Children's Chorus

♪ Giving a voice to girls through song ♪

The Winston-Salem Girls Chorus offers a joyful and empowering experience for girls and young women through vocal music education and artistic excellence in choral music performance.

Vocal Training - Friendships - Adventure

From the Artistic Director:

Yes, we have a new name and mission! After 16 years of faithfully serving both boys and girls, we have made an intentional decision to be an all girls' organization. Typically, a much greater percentage of girls than boys audition for this type of a choral group, and we have worked hard to include both boys and girls for the past 16 years. Also, we felt like it was time for an overall change in our organization, and to redirect our focus. Our singers and parents are very excited about this change as we break new ground and move forward into the future.

Most of our organizational structure will stay the same, with three levels to serve different ages and stages. The Chorale has changed its name to Lyrica, and we have established a "sister chorus" relationship with the Salem Academy Chorus. Director Joy Rushton was thrilled with our invitation to connect in this way, and we are in the process of developing ways to interact and empower girls and young women through singing together. In early October we combined our older singers with high school singers from the Capital City Girl Choir in Raleigh, and the High Point Young Voices group for our annual Advanced Choir Workshop. It was our turn to host this event and we were (Continued on the next page...)





UPBEAT!

2nd - 4th Grades



Lyrica
4th - 8th Grades

Encore

Advanced Choir
8 - 12th Grades

"From the Artistic Director," continued from the previous page...

thrilled to invite guest conductor Diane Covington as this year's clinician. With quality choral repertoire such as Mendelssohn's "Lift Thine Eyes" and Ken Berg's arrangement of "Still, Still, Still", these young women not only came prepared having already learned notes and rhythms, but were ready to quickly get down to work on things like a mature tone quality, a higher level of musicianship, and choral blend. This event culminated in a "Sharing Concert" of the massed choir singing in Centenary United Methodist Church's beautiful sanctuary, filling the space with beautiful sounds.



Advanced Choir Workshop Rehearsal in October

WSGC has also enjoyed our annual Gala with a wonderful catered meal and a program of Broadway music. Our choirs and soloists charmed our audience with Broadway favorites, complete with our UPBEAT! Choir's performance of "Do, Re, Me". Special guest artists included Soprano Anna Marie Mackey, Tenor Jeffery Maggs, and Trumpeter Gary Hastings.

We truly appreciate the donations of items for the Silent Auction and other financial gifts to the chorus! Creating this new venture does incur additional costs, and we invite you to consider us in your year-end giving; we are a non-profit organization and your donations are tax deductible. Your support truly makes a difference and helps provide scholarship opportunities for our singers.

Our Holiday Music schedule is quite full and we have already begun rehearsing this music. Please make it a special point to come in person and hear us sing during the month of December to get you into the holiday spirit! A calendar listing of upcoming events is on the back page.

Yes, there are lots of new things going on with us, but please know that we have worked with intention to keep the best of who we are as we evolve and move forward. *The one constant throughout our history is transcendence; when children and youth sing together beautifully, there is nothing less than this.* —Anne



*Above: Lyrica singing for the Gala Event
Below: Advanced Choir Workshop in early October*



ANNOUNCING OUR SPRING AUDITIONS

Come and join us!
Auditions now open for our
2015-2016 Spring Semester, January - May.



Lyrica

4th - 8th Grades
Audition Required

UPBEAT!

Training Choir for 2nd - 4th Grades
Audition/Interview Required



Encore

8th—12th Graders
~ Audition Required ~

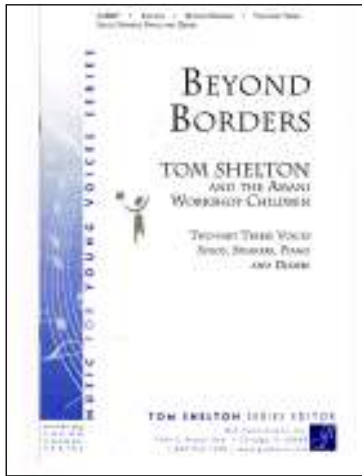


Auditions/Interviews by appointment only ~ Fees required
Contact Artistic Director Anne M. Saxon: (336) 922-4073
WSCGSing@aol.com ~ www.wsgirlschorus.org

Amani Invitational Children's Choir Festival

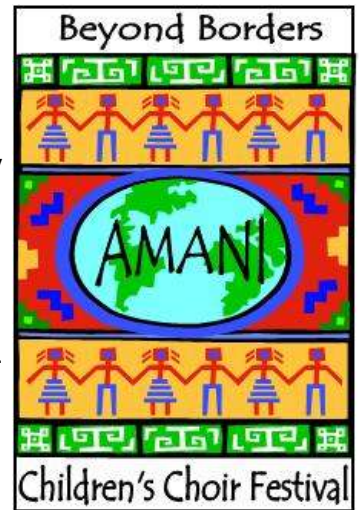
Friday & Saturday, January 22-23, Centenary UMC

The purpose of Amani Invitational Children's Choir Festival (AICCF) is to raise awareness of abandoned orphans in Kenya due to HIV/AIDS and poverty, as supported and served by the Amani Children's Foundation based here in Winston-Salem. Children "sing together in harmony and celebrate our unity."



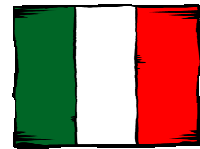
This bi-annual event is hosted by the Winston-Salem Girls Chorus and is partnered with the church's Music and Arts Ministry, which plays a supporting role. Invited children's choirs from Winston-Salem and the Piedmont are included. This will be our third festival, and Betsy Bevan is returning to lead the drumming portion of the event.

The final performance will include our festival theme song, "Beyond Borders", composed by Tom Shelton, together with the first Amani Festival children's group. This song is now in print with GIA publications including festival information. A Love Offering will be collected during the performance which will go to support a baby at one of Kenya's New Life Homes, sponsored by Amani. For more information (and a recording of the theme song) go to: <http://www.wsgirlschorus.org/amani.html>.



Karibu, pole, asante, and amani: four words that can change the world.

Italian Cafe'



Friday, February 26, 2016, 5:30 - 7:30 pm 
Centenary United Methodist Church Auditorium

Salad, Spaghetti, Bread, Tea & Coffee

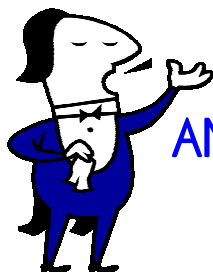
**Vegetarian and Gluten Free Spaghetti Available*

Including Raffle & Gourmet Dessert Sale!



Live Music provided by

UPBEAT!, Lyrica, & Encore Choirs
AND ~~The Three Tenors~~ - 2 Tenors and 1 Bass!



Tickets (February 16th deadline):
Adults, \$10, \$5 kids 10 & under
***At the door: Adults, \$12, \$7 kids 10 & under**

WSGC Upcoming Schedule

Friday, December 4:

Christmas Candlelight Concerts

Reynolda House Museum of Art

Lyrice & Encore Choirs - 6:00 - 8:30 pm

Admission is charged: www.reynoldahouse.org

Saturday, December 5:

City of Winston-Salem Tree Lighting Event

Corpening Plaza, downtown

Concert at 6:45; tree lighting at 7:00 pm

Free event following the WS Christmas parade

Saturday, December 12:

Annual Holiday Concert, 3:00 pm

All Choirs and Guest Instrumentalists

Centenary UMC Sanctuary

Love Offering Collected—*Doors open at 2:30

Sunday, December 13:

Lessons & Carols Service

Centenary UMC; Prelude music begins at 4:30

Service begins at 5:00

Featuring multiple choirs and full orchestra

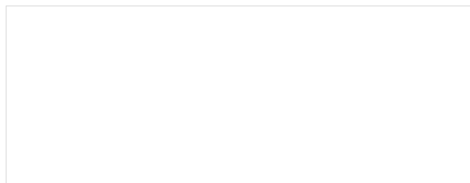
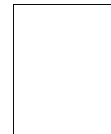


From:

Winston-Salem Girls Chorus

4105 Sewanee Drive

Winston-Salem, NC 27106



The mission of the Winston-Salem Girls Chorus is provide a joyful and empowering experience for girls and young women through vocal music education and artistic excellence in choral music performance.

Celebrating our 17th season of choral excellence!

Our graded choral program is comprised of singers from 2nd - 12th grades from Winston-Salem and surrounding areas.

Contact Information: (336) 922-4073; WSGCSing@aol.com

www.wsgirlschorus.org

Tuesday, December 15

Community Holiday Concert:

Whitaker Rehabilitation Center @Forsyth Hospital

UPBEAT!, Lyrice, & Encore

6:00 pm, Third Floor Gym

December 4 - January 15th:

Singer Auditions for the Spring Semester

January - May

Contact Artistic Director Anne Saxon

to schedule an audition: (336) 922-4073

Friday, Saturday, January 22-23:

Amani Invitational Children's Choir Festival

Centenary United Methodist Church

648 West 5th Street, Winston-Salem

Final Concert: Saturday, January 23, 1:00 pm

Free and open to the public; Love Offering

collected for the Amani Children's Foundation

www.wsgirlschorus.org/amani

Friday, February 26:

"Italian Café" Fundraiser Event

Centenary UMC Auditorium

Featuring Salad, Spaghetti, Bread

Tea & Coffee; Desserts for additional purchase

*Vegetarian & gluten-free spaghetti available

Raffle, Gourmet Desserts, & Live Entertainment

RSVP: WSGCSing@aol.com / (336) 922-4073

Discounted ticket deadline:

Tuesday, February 16, 2016

March 4-5:

Piedmont Invitational Children's Choir Festival

Hosted by the Capital City Girls Choir

Meredith College, Raleigh

Dr. Bridget Sweet, Guest Conductor

Make sure you join us
for one of our holiday
concerts! Information
← on the left.



Centenary UMC Lessons & Carols Service



Holiday Concert at Centenary UMC



City Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony



Reynolda House Candlelight Tours Concerts